

Executive Advisory Committee Office of Child Care February 25, 2003

Room 525

Noon – 1:30
Lunch will be Served

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|--------|--|
| Noon | Item 1 | Sub-Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data & Research<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Start Up – Patrice Spiegel / Chris Bray• Planning & Development<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Youth Prevention – Caroline Kueneman• Unassigned to a Sub-committee<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Professional Development – Teresa Whiting |
| 12:30 | Item 2 | Elyce Mouskondis, Chair comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Committee Members
Lynette Rasmussen, Director comments <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Payment Process / Eligibility Study• Employer Champions• New Foundation 501(c)(3)• Town Meetings / Legislator "Center" Tours |
| 1:20 | Item 3 | March Advisory Committee agenda items |
| 1:25 | Item 4 | Discussion Topics |
| 1:30 | Item 5 | Other Business |
| | Item 6 | ADJOURN |

Utah Office of Child Care Executive Advisory Committee Meeting February 25, 2003

Attendees:

Elyce Mouskondis
Connie Saccomanno
Lynette Rasmussen
Peter Corroon
Robin Nielson
Caroline Kueneman, Guest
Patrice Spiegel, Guest
Chris Bray, Guest
Teresa Whiting, Guest

Excused:

Roz McGee
Iona Thraen

ITEM 1: Subcommittee Reports

Date & Research – Patrice Spiegel and Chris Bray: Start Up Grants

This item will be on the full committee agenda March 12.

Patrice presented data and recommendations made by OCC as discussed regarding the Start-Up and Expansion Grant in a staff meeting. OCC took into consideration the recommendation made by the Data & Research Sub-Committee to not support center start-up grants this year, and data gathered by Patrice that looked at child density in comparison to slots and vacancies by county.

Data and past experience by OCC staff shows that most rural areas can't support centers, but family groups could fill the gap. Centers might not be able to sustain in the current economy. The Office of Child Care is apprehensive about opening new centers when current centers are struggling.

Recommendations presented by OCC:

- Start-up money will not be offered to centers this year based on vacancy and unemployment rate data (this doesn't shut the door on start-up grants for centers in the future). Start-up monies will be offered to family and family group providers through the Child Care Resource and Referral Agency. Consistent criteria will be developed by OCC and CCR&R.
- OCC would like to target money to support existing providers based on recommendations made by the Mills' Child Care Workforce Study, focusing on recruitment & retention, provider education, and wages and benefits.

Decision:

The Executive Advisory Committee agrees to support the recommendations of the Office of Child Care with the recommendation that child care need be evaluated every year and decisions are made based upon that data.

Planning & Development – Caroline Kueneman: Youth Prevention Funds

This item will be on the full committee agenda March 12.

At the February meeting there was a strong representation from private, public, and non-profit sectors to review the recommendations made at prior meetings on the subject of the Youth Prevention Funds.

Final Recommendations for the Community and Youth Prevention Grant (Attachment A) were presented to the Executive Advisory Committee.

Decision:

The Executive Advisory Committee agrees to support the recommendations as presented.

Elyce expressed congratulations to the sub-committee for their desire to serve all youth and not cutting off support at a certain age.

Professional Development / Provider Awards – Teresa Whiting

This item will be on the full committee agenda March 12.

This item will be included in the Towne meetings at the end of April.

Teresa gave a brief history of provider development programs. A way to measure quality has become a key component and has evolved into the use of the Environment Rating Scales. The Health Department Licensing rules address health and safety items, but not quality. OCC wants programs to address the quality aspect of child care.

OCC has developed some options to revise the Provider Achievement Award program in hopes of making it more desirable and attainable for child care providers.

Options:

- Option 1 is available to family providers, individual caregivers in a program and centers. Award options range from Training and Longevity to Self Assessment to receiving an ERS observation by a TA consultant to earn a Star Award. Surveys were sent to providers to ask their opinion on this option. Teresa went over the results of the survey, which over-all, were very positive.
- Option 2 was created after a CCR&R Director's meeting when the comment was made that it would be nice to combine all of the programs that require ERS observations to make things less cumbersome for providers and TA consultants. The proposed modification is a two part program:
 - *Steps to the Stars* would target child care centers or family providers and would not be available to individual caregivers in a program. It would combine the currently existing PAA and QI Grant Programs. It ensures some type of reward for a provider who makes any attempt to get involved from gift certificates to cash bonuses to qualifying for a QI Grant. It offers annual incentives to providers who offer quality care and help for providers to improve quality. Teresa reviewed the program as proposed. The gift certificates would be two fold. 1: it would reward the providers for attempting the process even if the score received does not qualify them for an award in the program,

and 2: certificates would assure that money is spent on quality improvement items for provider programs.

- *Training & Longevity Supplement (TL\$)* allows any individual provider, center, or family provider to receive an annual wage supplement based on their Career Ladder level and years of continuous licensed experience.

A process will be formulated that will stagger the application date process throughout the year so that TA's and OCC will not be overloaded.

Connie asked why this issue was not discussed at a sub-committee. The Sub-Committee process is valuable as a way to gain public support.

Decision:

The Executive Advisory Committee agrees that this issue needs to be brought before a sub-committee.

Resolution:

Teresa will share this information with the Planning & Development Sub-Committee in March.

ITEM 2: Chair Comments & Director Comments

Elyce Mouskondis

- Office of Child Care Advisory Committee Membership: New Committee Members
 - With the passing of the child care bill there are new vacancies to fill within the committee. It is the goal of the committee to have prospective members identified by the March Advisory Committee meeting and have invitations extended prior to the April meeting. It is further desired that these members be on board by May and able to attend the Annual Retreat in June. The bill also requires that membership term ending dates be staggered so that 50% "seasoned" members will remain on the board at all times. With this in mind, some members will be asked to serve shorter terms to implement the stagger requirement. Slots that need filling were reviewed. It was asked that Lynette be notified of any candidate recommendations. Lynette will create "letters of commitment" for the new members that will be included in their orientation packets. (Tasks identified for this project are found at the end of attachment B.)

Lynette Rasmussen

- Subsidy Payment Process / Eligibility Study
- Employer Champions will have their first meeting in May.
- OCC State Plan

- It is hoped to present the plan to the full Advisory Committee at the May meeting. The plan must be turned in by July 1 to Administration for Children and Families. The Executive Committee plans to meet via email on this issue prior to the Advisory Committee Meeting in May.
- OCC will be holding Towne Meetings throughout the state to get public comments and support for the State Plan. In conjunction with the town meetings, as recommended by the Public Awareness & Marketing Sub-Committee, OCC would like to tour child care facilities with local legislatures to expose them to child care issues in their areas.
- 501 (c) (3) Foundation
 - It was determined that a consultant may need to be hired to establish the foundation bylaws, procedures, bookkeeping, legislative and financial reports, etc. It may take much of next year to get this set up. Additionally, the Trust Fund money (\$22,000) is still out there and needs to be addressed. The Advisory Committee could make the recommendation to move that money into the new fund. This will be discussed further in future.

ITEM 3: March Advisory Committee agenda items

Elyce and Lynette will compile agenda items. A draft agenda will be sent out to members prior to the meeting.

ITEM 4: Discussion Topics

Advisory Committee Retreat

It is agreed that the annual retreat will be held June 11 at the Nicholas and Company offices. Lynette will find a facilitator for the meeting. The agenda for last year's retreat will be reviewed to create this year's agenda.

ITEM 5: Other – Elyce Mouskondis

The Best of State Awards

The Best of State Awards is a program backed by the Governor's Office. Mark Layton heads the program. Recently Elyce spoke with him about the Work Life / Top Ten Awards and Employer Champions and suggested that these companies be mentioned in the Best of State literature. He thought the idea had merit. He may be contacting Lynette.

Roz McGee will preside at the March full Advisory Committee meeting in Elyce's absence.

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